

## CLAIMS

1. A method of inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria by topical administration of a pharmaceutical composition comprising 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said composition consists of pentane-1,5-diol and said carrier.
3. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the administration is topical.
4. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the administration is by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a combination thereof provided with said composition.
5. A method of manufacture of a medicament for topical administration for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria, said method comprising the incorporation of 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier has a bacteriostatic effect which is less than 5% on a weight basis of the bacteriostatic effect of pentane-1,5-diol in respect of a particular microorganism.
7. The method of claim 5 or 6, wherein said carrier is comprised by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a combination thereof.
8. A method for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria by application of a bacteriostatic composition

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comprising more 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol and a suitable carrier to a surface contaminated by said bacteria.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said composition essentially  
5 consists of pentane-1,5-diol and a carrier which is  
essentially free from other bacteriostatic agents.

10. The method of claim 8 or 9, wherein the carrier is an  
aqueous carrier.

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11. The method of claim 10, wherein the aqueous carrier  
comprises a thickening agent.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said thickening agent is  
15 selected from cellulose derivatives such as methyl cellulose,  
hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl-propyl cellulose.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the carrier comprises a  
detergent, in particular a salt of a fatty acid.

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14. The method of any of claims 8-13 wherein the composition  
is comprised by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a  
combination thereof.

25 15. Use of a composition comprising 15% or more by weight of  
pentant-1,2-diol and a suitable carrier for inhibiting the  
growth of multiple-resistant bacteria.

16. The use of claim 15, wherein the carrier is an aqueous  
30 carrier.

17. The use of claim 15 or 16, wherein the carrier is  
comprised by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a  
combination thereof provided with said composition.

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18. A method of disinfecting a non-porous surface contaminated with multiple resistant bacteria, comprising:

- providing a disinfecting composition comprising 5 15% or more by weight of pentane-1,5-diol and a suitable carrier;
- applying said composition to said surface;
- optionally, keeping said composition in contact with said surface for a period of time from 5 min 10 to 24 hrs at ambient temperature,
- rinsing said surface with water or an aqueous detergent composition.